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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant and Inventor	Ho Keung, TSE.
Filing Date	07/09/98
Application Number	09/112,276
Group Art Unit	2132
Examiner	Gilberto Barron Jr.
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Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231. *By Airmail & Fax*

Sir,

Last Amendment Dated Oct., 20, 2001

*This is my last amendment. That is, no further amendment unless response to Examiner's instructions or the like.*

Pls amend claim 21 by using the accompanying replacement sheet 22.

*This amendment & all previous amendments are filed by fax and airmail, pls ignore all airmailed amendments if the fax copies are good enough, to avoid unnecessary delay, especially when U.S.A is facing anthrax letter attack.*

*The amendment are, namely as :*

- 1) Submission of New Claim 21 & Amendment on Descriptn.
- 2) Amendment on Claim 18 Dated Oct., 17, 2001
- 3) Amendment on New Claim 21 Dated Oct., 19, 2001.
- 4) Last Amendment Dated Oct., 20, 2001

*The fax copies can be re-sent if necessary.*

Respectfully submitted,

Ho Keung, Tse.

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MAR 07 2003  
**GROUP 3600**

**Official**  
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12/11/01

-22-

21. A method for verifying identity of a user of a data processing apparatus, comprising the steps of :

- a) receiving, by said data processing apparatus, information specific to a user and necessary for accessing an account of said user ;
- b) verifying said account being valid, by an electronic transaction system, by use of said information received by said data processing apparatus;
- c) using by said data processing apparatus, a favourable result of said verification as a pre-condition for providing user access to at least a part of the functionality of said data processing apparatus ;

wherein said steps a) to c) is being performed without charging said account and said at least a part of functionality being not related to said validity status of said account.

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21(Second Time Amended). A method for verifying identity of a user of a data processing apparatus, comprising the steps of :

- a) receiving, by said data processing apparatus, information specific to a user and necessary for accessing an account of said user ;
- b) verifying said account being valid, by an electronic transaction system, by use of said information received by said data processing apparatus;
- c) using by said data processing apparatus, a favourable result of said verification as a pre-condition for providing user access to at least a part of the functionality of said data processing apparatus ;

wherein said [access] steps a) to c) is being [provided] performed without charging said account and said at least a part of functionality being not related to said validity status of said account.